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391CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT The Mecklenburg Informationsbüro

DIST. 11 January 1948

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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1. The Informationsbüro (Bureau of Information) of the Mecklenburg State Government is directly responsible to the executive office of the minister-president. The head of the Bureau is one Regierungsdirektor Kollwitz (SED), a former concentration camp inmate and a Communist of long standing. Personnel may be hired only with the approval of the minister president. In September 1947 the Bureau employed from twenty-five to thirty officials, two of whom were women. Five of the officials belonged to the CDU, while the rest were SED members. The personnel turnover rate is very high and it is expected that the CDU members will gradually be eased out.
2. The Informationsbüro is divided into two sections: Control and Information. The Control Section is managed by Herr Herzog, a CDU member, while the Information Section is the preserve of one Wulf, an SED member and a personal friend of Kollwitz.
3. It is the function of the Informationsbüro to supervise the proper execution of the laws, orders, and directives of the State of Mecklenburg. This involves the inspection of government offices for the maintenance of proper standards of administrative efficiency, for the unveiling of corrupt practices, and for the coordination of the diverse functions of the various government agencies. The Informationsbüro also works to gauge the state of public opinion concerning various issues the popularity of which the minister-president wishes to determine. The Bureau's work in the field is carried out by twenty-one offices on the Kreis level. The field representatives maintain their establishments in the offices of the local Kreis authorities and transmit their reports directly to Kollwitz in Schwerin.
4. Regierungsdirektor Kollwitz is the first to see all reports from the field. Further dissemination, either within the Informationsbüro or to the pertinent ministries, is entirely at Kollwitz's discretion. He is thus in a position to suppress embarrassing information. Reports Kollwitz sees fit to disseminate are passed on to the subsections of the Bureau for processing and are then sent to Dörnberg, the functionary in the Planning Section of the minister-president's office who sees to their further distribution. Kollwitz, a member of the Mecklenburg SED Central Committee, sees to it that the SED headquarters receives regular reports. He also has direct contact with the SIA.

CLASSIFICATION

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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5. Members of the SED auxiliary organizations--FDGB, VdGB, Kulturbund, Volkssolidaritat--assist the Kreis officers in the collection of information which might damage the reputations or official positions of CDU or LDP adherents who are in the civil service. The covert plans and activities of the opposition parties are primary targets of the Bureau's informants.

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Act, 50, U.S.C. 31 and 32 as amended. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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